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MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES
Suite 310
114 Pacifica
Irvine, CA 92618

EXAMINER

WIENER, ERIC A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2112

DATE MAILED: 12/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/716,908

Applicant(s)

YOKOTA, TATSUO

Examiner

Eric A. Wiener

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/8/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 28 are pending.
2. The IDS filed on 4/8/2004 has been considered.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 4, 11, 18, and 25 are objected to because of the following informality: In the phrase “either by a place type of a place name” that is present in said claims, the word ‘of’ should be changed to ‘or.’ Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1 – 4, 6 – 11, 13 – 18, 20 – 25, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millington et al. (US 6,873,907 B1) in view of Yourlo et al. (US 7,092,935 B2).

As per claim 1, Millington discloses *a display method for a navigation system for guiding a user to a destination* (column 3, lines 1 – 11 and column 8, lines 4 – 35) *comprising*

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the step of displaying a point of interest name list based on an instruction specified by a user (column 5, lines 52 – 57).

Millington does not explicitly disclose the method includes selecting an unwanted point of interest name in the point of interest name list and removing all points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name from the point of interest name list.

However, in an analogous art, Yourlo discloses *selecting an unwanted item name in the item name list* (column 13, lines 15 – 17) *and removing all items having the unwanted item name from the item name list* (column 13, lines 18 – 20), where the examiner has interpreted a “point of interest” to be a type of item.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Yourlo with the method of Millington to develop a method of displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein a user can select and remove unwanted point of interest names. The modification would have been obvious, because if the user cannot remove unwanted items from the lists they search, an exhaustive and typically slow and inefficient search would be necessitated. Thus, it would be useful to enable a method of performing a reduced search through a large database of items to be more rapidly conducted (Yourlo, column 1, lines 21 – 33).

As per claim 2, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 1. In addition, Yourlo further discloses *repeating the step of selecting the unwanted item name and the step of removing the unwanted item names from the item name list* (column 10, lines 43 – 45).

As per claim 3, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 2. In addition, Millington further discloses *selecting a point of interest name from remaining point of*

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interest names in the point of interest name list as a destination and a step of determining an optimum route to the destination, thereby performing route guidance to the destination (column 5, lines 57 – 59).

As per claim 4, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 1. In addition, Millington further discloses that *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining a method of retrieving the point of interest names either by a place type (column 3, lines 32 – 33) or a place name (column 3, lines 23 – 25), where the examiner has interpreted entering a “place name” to be sufficiently equivalent to entering a “location.”*

As per claim 6, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 1. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said step of removing the items includes a step of filling other item names in spaces in the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed (column 13, lines 27 – 29).*

As per claim 7, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 1. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said step of removing the items includes a step of adding new item names to the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed, and wherein the unwanted item names are removed from the new item names before being added to the item name list (column 10, lines 42 – 43).*

As per claim 8, Millington discloses *a display method for a navigation system for guiding a user to a destination (column 3, lines 1 – 11 and column 8, lines 4 – 35) comprising the step of displaying a point of interest name list based on an instruction specified by a user (column 5, lines 52 – 57).*

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Millington does not explicitly disclose the method includes selecting an unwanted point of interest name in the point of interest name list, executing either a first removal function for removing points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name or a second removal function for removing points of interest of the same type as that of the unwanted point of interest name, and removing all points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name from the point of interest name list when the first removal function is executed and removing all points of interest in the same type as that of the unwanted point of interest name when the second removal function is executed.

However, in an analogous art, Yourlo discloses *selecting an unwanted point of interest name in the item name list* (column 13, lines 15 – 17), *executing either a first removal function* (column 4, lines 29 – 35) *for removing items having the unwanted item name* (column 13, lines 18 – 20) *or a second removal function* (column 4, lines 29 – 35) *for removing items of the same type as that of the unwanted item name* (column 13, lines 18 – 22), *and removing all items having the unwanted item name from the item name list when the first removal function is executed* (column 13, lines 18 – 20) *and removing all items in the same type as that of the unwanted item name when the second removal function is executed* (column 13, lines 18 – 22), where the examiner has interpreted a “point of interest” to be a type of item.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Yourlo with the method of Millington to develop a method of displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein a user can select and remove unwanted point of interest names. The modification would have been obvious, because if the user cannot remove unwanted items from the lists they search, an exhaustive and

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typically slow and inefficient search would be necessitated. Thus, it would be useful to enable a method of performing a reduced search through a large database of items to be more rapidly conducted (Yourlo, column 1, lines 21 – 33).

As per claim 9, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 8. In addition, Yourlo further discloses *repeating the step of selecting the unwanted item name, the step of executing the first or second removal function, and the step of removing the unwanted item names from the item name list* (column 10, lines 43 – 45).

As per claim 10, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 9. In addition, Millington further discloses *selecting a point of interest name from remaining point of interest names in the point of interest name list as a destination and a step of determining an optimum route to the destination, thereby performing route guidance to the destination* (column 5, lines 57 – 59).

As per claim 11, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 8. In addition, Millington further discloses that *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining a method of retrieving the point of interest names either by a place type* (column 3, lines 32 – 33) *or a place name* (column 3, lines 23 – 25), where the examiner has interpreted entering a “place name” to be sufficiently equivalent to entering a “location.”

As per claim 13, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 8. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said step of removing the item includes a step of filling other item names in spaces in the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed* (column 13, lines 27 – 29).

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As per claim 14, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 8. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said step of removing the items includes a step of adding new item names to the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed, and wherein the unwanted item names are removed from the new item names before being added to the item name list* (column 10, lines 42 – 43).

As per claim 15, Millington discloses *a display apparatus for a navigation system for guiding a user to a destination* (column 3, lines 1 – 11) *comprising a means for displaying a point of interest name list based on an instruction specified by a user* (column 5, lines 52 – 57), where the means for displaying is the screen of the display.

Millington does not explicitly disclose the apparatus includes a means for selecting an unwanted point of interest name in the point of interest name list and removing all points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name from the point of interest name list.

However, in an analogous art, Yourlo discloses *a means for selecting an unwanted item name in the item name list* (column 13, lines 15 – 17) *and a means for removing all items having the unwanted item name from the item name list* (column 13, lines 18 – 20), where the examiner has interpreted a “point of interest” to be a type of item and where the means for selecting and removing is the PCUI interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Yourlo with the apparatus of Millington to develop an apparatus comprising a means for displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein a user can select and remove unwanted point of interest names. The modification would have been obvious, because if the user cannot remove unwanted items from the lists they search,

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an exhaustive and typically slow and inefficient search would be necessitated. Thus, it would be useful to enable a method of performing a reduced search through a large database of items to be more rapidly conducted (Yourlo, column 1, lines 21 – 33).

As per claim 16, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 15. In addition, Yourlo further discloses a *means for repeating the processes of selecting the unwanted item name and removing the unwanted item names from the item name list* (column 10, lines 43 – 45), where the means for repeating the process of selecting and removing is the PCUI interface.

As per claim 17, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 16. In addition, Millington further discloses a *means for selecting a point of interest name from remaining point of interest names in the point of interest name list as a destination and a means for determining an optimum route to the destination, thereby performing route guidance to the destination* (column 5, lines 52 – 59), where the means for selecting is the user input device and the means for determining is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

As per claim 18, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 15. In addition, Millington further discloses that *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining a method of retrieving the point of interest names either by place type* (column 3, lines 32 – 33) *or a place name* (column 3, lines 23 – 25), where the examiner has interpreted entering a “place name” to be sufficiently equivalent to entering a “location” and where the means for determining a method of retrieving is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

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As per claim 20, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 15. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said means for removing the items includes a means for filling other item names in spaces in the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed* (column 13, lines 27 – 29), where the means for filling is the PCUI interface.

As per claim 21, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 15. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said means for removing the items includes a means for adding new item names to the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed, and wherein the unwanted item names are removed from the new item names before being added to the item name list* (column 10, lines 42 – 43), where the means for adding is the PCUI interface.

As per claim 22, Millington discloses *a display apparatus for a navigation system for guiding a user to a destination* (column 3, lines 1 – 11) *comprising a means for displaying a point of interest name list based on an instruction specified by a user* (column 5, lines 52 – 57), where the means for displaying is the screen of the display.

Millington does not explicitly disclose the apparatus includes a means for selecting an unwanted point of interest name in the point of interest name list, executing either a first removal function for removing points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name or a second removal function for removing points of interest of the same type as that of the unwanted point of interest name, and removing all points of interest having the unwanted point of interest name from the point of interest name list when the first removal function is executed and removing all points of interest in the same type as that of the unwanted point of interest name when the second removal function is executed.

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However, in an analogous art, Yourlo discloses a *means for selecting an unwanted item name in the item name list* (column 13, lines 15 – 17), *executing either a first removal function* (column 4, lines 29 – 35) *for removing items having the unwanted item name* (column 13, lines 18 – 20) *or a second removal function* (column 4, lines 29 – 35) *for removing items of the same type as that of the unwanted item name* (column 13, lines 18 – 22), *and removing all items having the unwanted item name from the item name list when the first removal function is executed* (column 13, lines 18 – 20) *and removing all items in the same type as that of the unwanted item name when the second removal function is executed* (column 13, lines 18 – 22), where the examiner has interpreted a “point of interest” to be a type of item and where the means for selecting, executing, and removing is the PCUI interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Yourlo with the apparatus of Millington to develop an apparatus comprising a means for displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein a user can select and remove unwanted point of interest names. The modification would have been obvious, because if the user cannot remove unwanted items from the lists they search, an exhaustive and typically slow and inefficient search would be necessitated. Thus, it would be useful to enable a method of performing a reduced search through a large database of items to be more rapidly conducted (Yourlo, column 1, lines 21 – 33).

As per claim 23, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 22. In addition, Yourlo further discloses *a means for repeating the processes of selecting the unwanted item name, executing the first or second removal function, and removing the unwanted*

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item names from the item name list (column 10, lines 43 – 45), where the means for repeating the process of selecting, executing, and removing is the PCUI interface.

As per claim 24, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 23. In addition, Millington further discloses *selecting a point of interest name from remaining point of interest names in the point of interest name list as a destination and a means for determining an optimum route to the destination, thereby performing route guidance to the destination* (column 5, lines 57 – 59), where the means for selecting is the user input device and the means for determining is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

As per claim 25, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 22. In addition, Millington further discloses that *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining a method of retrieving the point of interest names either by place type* (column 3, lines 32 – 33) *or a place name* (column 3, lines 23 – 25), where the examiner has interpreted entering a “place name” to be sufficiently equivalent to entering a “location” and where the means for determining a method of retrieving is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

As per claim 27, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 22. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said means for removing the items includes a means for filling other item names in spaces in the item name list where the unwanted item names have been removed* (column 13, lines 27 – 29), where the means for filling is the PCUI interface.

As per claim 28, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 22. In addition, Yourlo further discloses that *said means for removing the items includes a means for adding new item names to the item name list where the unwanted item names have been*

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removed, and wherein the unwanted item names are removed from the new item names before being added to the item name list (column 10, lines 42 – 43), where the means for adding is the PCUI interface.

6. Claims 5, 12, 19, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millington et al. (US 6,873,907 B1) and Yourlo et al. (US 7,092,935 B2) in view of Liu et al. (US 6,349,257 B1).

As per claim 5, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 1. In addition, Millington further discloses *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by an alphabetical order* (Figure 19).

Neither Millington nor Yourlo explicitly disclose said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position.

However, in an analogous art, Liu discloses *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position* (column 7, lines 5 – 8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Liu with the method of Millington and Yourlo to develop a method of displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein the names are listed by distance from a user's position. The modification would have been obvious, because the cognitive load required for a user to sort through the choices of points of interest

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hinders the user's ability to drive safely. Thus, it would benefit the user to present the points of interest in a useful manner requiring less focus on the navigation system, such as alphabetically or by a distance from the user (Liu, column 1, lines 13 – 40).

As per claim 12, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the method of claim 8. In addition, Millington further discloses *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by an alphabetical order* (Figure 19).

Neither Millington nor Yourlo explicitly disclose said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position.

However, in an analogous art, Liu discloses *said step of displaying the point of interest name list includes a step of determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position* (column 7, lines 5 – 8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Liu with the method of Millington and Yourlo to develop a method of displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein the names are listed by distance from a user's position. The modification would have been obvious, because the cognitive load required for a user to sort through the choices of points of interest hinders the user's ability to drive safely. Thus, it would benefit the user to present the points of interest in a useful manner requiring less focus on the navigation system, such as alphabetically or by a distance from the user (Liu, column 1, lines 13 – 40).

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As per claim 19, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 15. In addition, Millington further discloses *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by an alphabetical order* (Figure 19), where the means for determining is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

Neither Millington nor Yourlo explicitly disclose *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position*.

However, in an analogous art, Liu discloses *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position* (column 7, lines 5 – 8), where the means for determining is the system control unit of the navigation system (column 5, line 57).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Liu with the apparatus of Millington and Yourlo to develop an apparatus for displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein the names are listed by distance from a user's position. The modification would have been obvious, because the cognitive load required for a user to sort through the choices of points of interest hinders the user's ability to drive safely. Thus, it would benefit the user to present the points of interest in a useful manner requiring less focus on the navigation system, such as alphabetically or by a distance from the user (Liu, column 1, lines 13 – 40).

As per claim 26, Millington and Yourlo substantially disclose the apparatus of claim 22. In addition, Millington further discloses *said means for displaying the point of interest name list*

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includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by an alphabetical order (Figure 19), where the means for determining is the CPU of the navigation system (column 2, line 37).

Neither Millington nor Yourlo explicitly disclose said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position.

However, in an analogous art, Liu discloses *said means for displaying the point of interest name list includes a means for determining an order of listing the point of interest names by distance from a current user position* (column 7, lines 5 – 8), where the means for determining is the system control unit of the navigation system (column 5, line 57).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Liu with the apparatus of Millington and Yourlo to develop an apparatus for displaying a point of interest name list in a navigation system wherein the names are listed by distance from a user's position. The modification would have been obvious, because the cognitive load required for a user to sort through the choices of points of interest hinders the user's ability to drive safely. Thus, it would benefit the user to present the points of interest in a useful manner requiring less focus on the navigation system, such as alphabetically or by a distance from the user (Liu, column 1, lines 13 – 40).

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure. The cited documents represent the general state of the art.

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Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric A. Wiener whose telephone number is 571-270-1401. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Châmeli Das, can be reached on 571-272-3696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).




CHAMELI DAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

12/6/06